

Once Upon a Time

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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Princess Anna's Gift ...
Inside on page 12





The Three Soldiers

1. All kinds of fortune had befallen the three jolly soldiers. It was good luck when a kind little dwarf gave them gifts of a magic gorse, a magic cloak and a magic music horn. But it was bad luck when all three things were stolen by greedy Princess Griselda, and bad luck again when one of the soldiers ate a magic apple which made his nose grow. However, by good luck, the dwarf appeared again.

2. He cured the long nose by giving the soldier a ripe pear to eat and then sent him off to the castle, disguised as a gardener's boy, to tempt the Princess with one of the nose-growing apples. "Halt!" said the guard at the gate. "Who goes there?" "A friend with special ripe apples for the Princess," replied the soldier. "They are finer and more beautiful than any ever seen before."



3. Other people came along and when they saw the shining apples in the soldier's basket they wanted a taste. "Look here, my fine fellow," said the officer of the guard. "I will buy one. How much are they?" The soldier waved him away with a smile. "I'm sorry, sir, but apples like these are only fit for a princess," he said.



4. So he gave the apples only to the castle maid and she hurried to the Princess, who was about to have breakfast in bed. "Try one of these apples, my lady," she said. "They look quite delicious." The Princess thought so, too, and took a large bite. But then she dropped the apple with a scream, because her nose started to grow.



5. Soon the royal nose was stretching to the end of the bed, and the wails of the Princess brought the King rushing into the room. "What has happened, daughter?" he gasped. "Why is your nose getting longer and longer with every passing moment?" "I know not," the Princess answered. "But do something to stop it, and quickly before my nose stretches right out through the window."



6. The King had no idea what to do. "Cleverer brains than mine are needed in a case like this," he thought. So he sent out a royal herald with a proclamation. "All people in this kingdom shall listen to the wishes of His Royal Majesty," said the herald in a loud voice. "Be it known that the Princess is suffering from an affliction of the nose, and a cure for it will gain reward."



7. Now, this was all part of the dwarf's plan and when the news went round the kingdom of the sad affair of the Princess's nose, the three soldiers were ready for action. One of them had already dressed himself in clothes fit for a clever doctor, and in a bag he placed some ripe pears. "Leave this to me, my friends," he told his companions. "I will attend upon the greedy Princess."



8. So off he marched to the Royal Palace and asked the guard at the gate to let him through at once. "I have heard that Princess Griselda suffers from a nose complaint that is most unusual," he said. "Now, it so happens that I am a nose-expert from a distant country and I have treated some of the most famous noses in the world." "Then come in at once, good sir," said the gate-minder.

Next week you will see what happens to Princess Griselda's long nose.



The Snow Bunting flies south from the vast, bitterly cold wastes of the Arctic Regions, to the mountainous areas of the Scottish Highlands where it nests during the British Winter. It is the smallest bird to fly from the Arctic.

In our Alberta pages this week we show you Alberta birds that visit Great Britain and parts of Europe in the Summer or in the Winter. The ones shown at the top of these two pages visit Britain in the Winter, and the ones shown at the bottom of these pages can be seen in the Summer.



Breeding in Greenland and Spitzbergen, the Barnacle Goose is another Winter visitor to Britain. It flies chiefly to the Hebrides, the Solway Firth and some parts of Ireland, and has a greater liking for the sea than most other geese.

All Sorts



The Garden Warbler, with a voice as sweet as any nightingale's, arrives in Great Britain from South Africa from the middle of March onwards, joining the many other species of warblers. Nesting areas are in the Highlands of Scotland and several Irish counties.



A member of the swallow family, the House Martin comes to Britain in the Summer from South Africa. Called a House Martin because it builds a nest below the eaves of a house. It is an excellent builder, using mud and clay to make its nest.



A handsome bird is the Hoopoe, a regular Spring and Autumn visitor to Southern England and Ireland. China, India, Africa and parts of Europe are its main nesting grounds.



The Whinchat flies north each Spring from Africa. Most of them settle in Britain or Northern Europe to nest, but some of the bravest and strongest Whinchats fly on to the Arctic regions to breed.



In the Winter, Goldeneye Ducks may be seen swimming in small parties, to remain in England until Spring. Holes in trees are their nesting places, and in Scandinavia they seek nests by wooded pools and lakes. They are a species of wild duck.



Flying south to Great Britain in the Winter, the Fieldfare, which is a member of the Thrush family, lives in Britain until the coming of Summer. It then returns to its breeding areas in Scandinavia and Eastern Europe.

of Visiting Birds



Like the Whinchat, the Stonechat follows the same route north each Spring from Africa. But the Stonechat cannot be mistaken for a Whinchat for it has a yellow chest, and brown and white feathers on its back, tail and wings.



Another Summer visitor to Great Britain is the Pied Flycatcher. It nests in Western and Northern Britain, and on passage to this country may appear in all parts of the world. Pied means black and white, and this bird has black and white feathers.



For thousands of years, Swallows have flown from West Africa to Great Britain. These graceful birds cross the Mediterranean Sea and Europe in search of nesting places.



Sedge Warblers are usually to be found around lakes and rivers, building their nests in riverside vegetation. Its Winters are spent in warm countries, but it comes to England in March.



BRER RABBIT

This week . . . Brer Rabbit tricks Brer Wolf.

NOW that Brer Beaver had built him a fine, new wooden house, as we told you in the story before last, Brer Rabbit felt safe from all the other animals. They couldn't break the house down and they couldn't get in, if Brer Rabbit locked the door safely when he went out.

Brer Wolf had been worrying Brer Rabbit for some time, but now that he had a good, strong house, Brer Rabbit no longer felt cold shivers go up and down his spine when Brer Wolf ran past, for he knew that Brer Wolf could do no damage.

One day, Brer Rabbit decided he would go and pay a visit on Mrs. Coon, but just as he was getting ready to go, Brer Rabbit heard such a fuss and clatter coming from up the road that he stood quite still and pricked up his ears, to try and make out what all the fuss was about.

Before Brer Rabbit had time to look out to see what was going on, the door opened and Brer Wolf came rushing in.

The little rabbits didn't trust Brer Wolf at all and the moment they saw him, they rushed down into the cellar which Brer Rabbit had dug out for them underneath the house. There they were quite safe.

Brer Rabbit looked at Brer Wolf in surprise. He was covered in mud and panting so hard he was quite out of breath.

"Oh, save me, Brer Rabbit, save me!" cried Brer Wolf. "Oh please save me. The dogs are after me, Brer Rabbit. They're chasing me and if they catch me they'll tear me to pieces, they will! Don't you hear them coming? Save me, Brer Rabbit. Please hide me somewhere where those dogs won't get me."

"Jump in that big chest over there, Brer Wolf!" said Brer Rabbit. "Just jump

inside there and make yourself at home."

Brer Wolf gave one mighty jump and he was inside the chest like a flash. Down came the lid and then Brer Rabbit went over to the looking-glass and there he winked at himself and smiled. Then he went over to his rocking-chair, in front of the fire and he sat down and he thought and thought. There was Brer Wolf, tucked away inside the chest, quite helpless, and as he thought about it, Brer Rabbit smiled to himself more and more.

At last, he got up and began to move around a bit.

Then Brer Wolf's voice came, rather timidly, from out of the chest. "Have all the dogs gone yet, Brer Rabbit?"

"I believe I can hear one of them sniffling around the chimney corner right now," Brer Rabbit replied. "You'd better stay right where you are."

He picked up the big kettle and filled it full of water.

"What are you doing now, Brer Rabbit?" called Brer Wolf.

"Oh, I'm just going to make you a nice cup of tea," Brer Rabbit replied.

Then Brer Rabbit went over to the cupboard and he took out his special tool for making holes. Then he started to bore lots of little holes in the lid of the chest.

"What are you doing, Brer Rabbit?" called Brer Wolf, who was getting rather a lot of sawdust in his eyes and up his nose and down his throat.

"Why, I'm just boring some holes in the lid of this chest, so that you can breathe," replied Brer Rabbit, as innocent as you like.

Then Brer Rabbit got some wood and flung it on the fire.

"What are you doing now, Brer Rabbit?" called Brer Wolf.

"I'm just making up the fire, so you won't get cold, Brer Wolf," said Brer Rabbit.

Brer Wolf was beginning to feel very cramped inside that chest, but he didn't dare get out in case the dogs were still around, for Brer Wolf was mighty scared of all those dogs. He knew if they were still around, they wouldn't rest until they caught him, so he just lay low inside that chest.

Brer Rabbit went down to the cellar and he told all his children it was safe for them to come up again. Up they all

trooped and, when he heard the sound of their feet, Brer Wolf called out, "What are you doing now, Brer Rabbit?"

"Oh, just telling my children what a nice man you are, Brer Wolf," said Brer Rabbit. As for the little rabbits, they had to put their hands in front of their mouths when they heard that, to keep from laughing, they did.

Then Brer Rabbit picked up the kettle and he started to pour hot water on to the lid of the chest.

"What's that noise I can hear, Brer Rabbit?" called Brer Wolf, from inside the chest.

"Only the wind blowing down the chimney, so don't let it worry you," called back Brer Rabbit.

The water began to run down through the holes Brer Rabbit had made in the lid of the chest.

"What's that I can feel, Brer Rabbit?" called Brer Wolf.

"You can only feel the fleas biting, Brer Wolf," called Brer Rabbit.

"Well, they're biting mighty hard, Brer Rabbit," Brer Wolf called back.

"Then turn over on the other side, Brer Wolf. Turn on the other side," called Brer Rabbit.

Brer Wolf wriggled and twisted and shoved until he had turned on to the other side, but he still felt mighty uncomfortable, for the water was quite hot.

The little rabbits could hardly stop chuckling as Brer Rabbit poured more

water through the holes on to Brer Wolf.

"They're eating me up, Brer Rabbit, they're eating me all up," called Brer Wolf, and he couldn't stand it any longer, dogs or no dogs.

He burst out of the chest with a great roar and he ran right out of the door and down the garden path and off down the road, as fast as if all the dogs in the place were after him, while Brer Rabbit and the little rabbits laughed and laughed until the tears ran down their cheeks.

As for Brer Wolf, it was a long time before he went anywhere near Brer Rabbit's house again.

Next week . . . Brer Rabbit and Brer Fox go hunting.

BRER RABBIT'S RIDDLES

Here are some more of Brer Rabbit's Riddles, which I am sure will make you laugh.

1. Why should a farmer like the letter 'G'?
2. What goes upstairs without making a noise?
3. What is the difference between a cook and a friend she visits?

Answers

1. Because it turns rain into gram. 2. A carpet. 3. One cooks the meat the other eats the cook.



Well, Fancy That!



The Amazon Tree Frog is a truly amazing creature. It chooses a hollow in a tree to catch the rain and then goes off to a jungle bee-hive. There it collects some beeswax and uses it to line the bowl in the tree. The hollow is then waterproof and in it the eggs are laid. Look at this picture and you will see green pads on the frog, which help it to cling when climbing.



The man is listening to a field cricket. But why is he looking at his watch? He is finding out how hot it is by counting the number of chirps in ten seconds. The more chirps, the hotter it is. The exact temperature can be worked out by counting the number of chirps which, when it is colder, come about one each second.



Over 700 years ago, the Colorado Red Indians built their houses out of the steep cliffs. They could get water from the land above, but to do that, footholds in the rocks had to be made. Carrying a jug on their head, the Indians would climb up and down these paths, and scientists can find no record to show that they ever fell off.



This is a Memory Test. When you have read the story, turn to page 11 and try to answer the questions to see how good your memory is.

Trafalgar Square

Trafalgar Square not only attracts thousands of pigeons, but thousands of holiday-makers too. There is no finer square in London, and some say it is the best in the world.

The idea of turning the site into a beautiful square was first thought of by John Nash, a famous architect of the seventeenth century—and it was going to be named after the King ruling at that time—King William the Fourth. But after Admiral Horatio Nelson's victory over the French Fleet at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805—a victory that cost Nelson his life—the name for the square was altered to Trafalgar Square, in memory of a great man.

Narrow, dirty streets and alleyways around the church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields were pulled down and, for the first time, people could appreciate the beauty of that old church, built by James Gibbs. In the picture, the church is behind the fountain to the right.

Then came the problem of what to put in the square itself. It was suggested that figures of the Duke of Wellington and Nelson be placed at the top of a long flight of stairs, but that idea was turned down in favour of a tall column, at the top of which a figure of Nelson would be placed.

Using hard Devonshire granite, William Railton built Nelson's Column, and the statue of Nelson was put on top. At the base of the column are pictures worked in bronze that show some of the battles in which Nelson took part, and around the column are four massive lions, designed by Sir Edwin Landseer.

While all this work was going on, the Government was receiving gifts of fine paintings, and having no fine building in which to house them, it was decided to build the National Gallery. You can see this famous building in the left-hand side of the picture.

In this gallery can be seen some of the most famous paintings in the world.

Fountains were also designed, but the ones we see today replaced the old ones in 1948. They are very attractive, especially at night when flooded.

The square has become a meeting place for many organisations and rallies, and at Christmas time, a platform is erected at the foot of Nelson's Column, and a group of musicians and singers lead the public in carol singing. The square is also the site for the giant Christmas tree which is presented each year as a gift to the English people from the people of Norway.

Just recently, Nelson's Column was cleaned—a tricky operation—but well worth the effort because, freed from the London dirt, we are able to see what this magnificent column must have looked like when Trafalgar Square was built, over a hundred years ago.

Signs of the Zodiac

LIBRA

(24th September to 22nd October)

LIBRA, another Sign of the Zodiac, is the birth sign for those of you who have birthdays between 24th September to 22nd October, and the sign stands for the scales.

The meaning of the sign is this: at a certain time of the year, the number of hours in the day and the number of hours in the night are equal; this time is called an equinox. The equinox that takes place during this sign is called the Autumn equinox. Many years ago, when man worshipped the Greek and Roman gods it was thought that Apollo, the sun god, and Selene, goddess of the moon, ruled equally during the Autumn equinox, and the scales showed that their power was even.

As you probably know, there were many gods, and Apollo was the son of Jupiter. Apollo roamed the earth for a long time before his father entrusted him with the task of spreading light all over the world. He drove a chariot of fire, and you can see him in this picture.

Selene was not such a powerful god as Apollo, although the moon was the most important thing in the heavens, next to the sun. Anything to do with the moon is called lunar, which comes from the Latin word "luna", meaning moon.

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Princess Anna's Gift



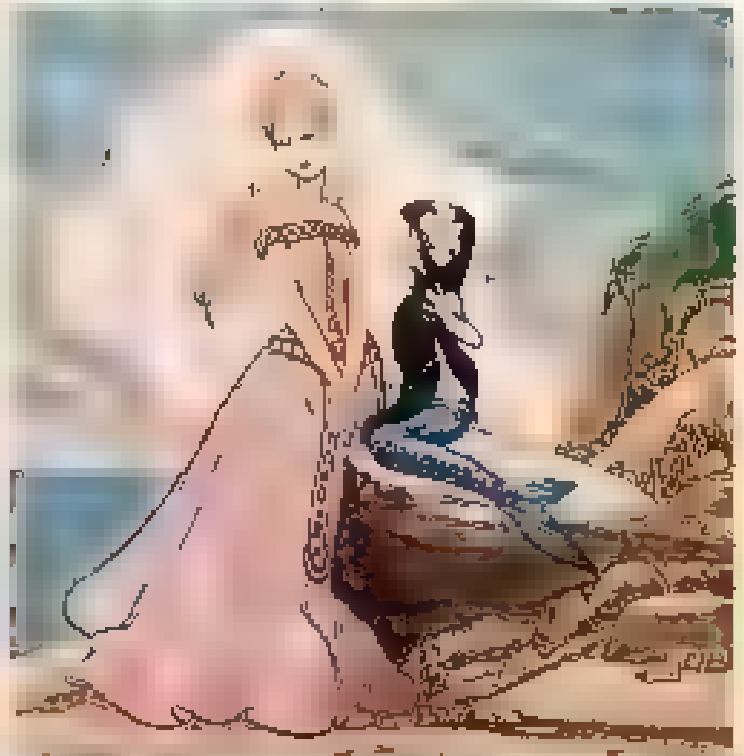
1 Once upon a time a baby princess was given as her christening, the gift of always telling the truth. The Fairy Godmother who gave her the gift thought that it would make her loved throughout the land. After all, she said, people will know how they can always trust her words. 'How true,' said the King and Queen.



2 But as the Princess Anna grew up, it became clear that her gift was what is called a mixed blessing. For instance, hearing her father tell the King of a neighbouring country how he wished for friendship between their two countries she added, 'But my other doesn't trust you, he thinks you want to take his throne'.



3 It was not until Anna had grown up that she realised how inconvenient her gift was. Many noble Princes came to ask for her hand and to each one she said, 'Your ears are a little large, sir, or 'How your nose twitches when you talk, or 'You're not as handsome as the Prince who came to call on me last week'.



4 Naturally the Princes went angrily back to their own countries and looked as if Anna would never marry. Walking sadly along the shore one day she heard a voice crying, 'Oh please, will no one help me?' And there was a little mermaid caught in some rocks. Of course, Anna hurried to set her free.



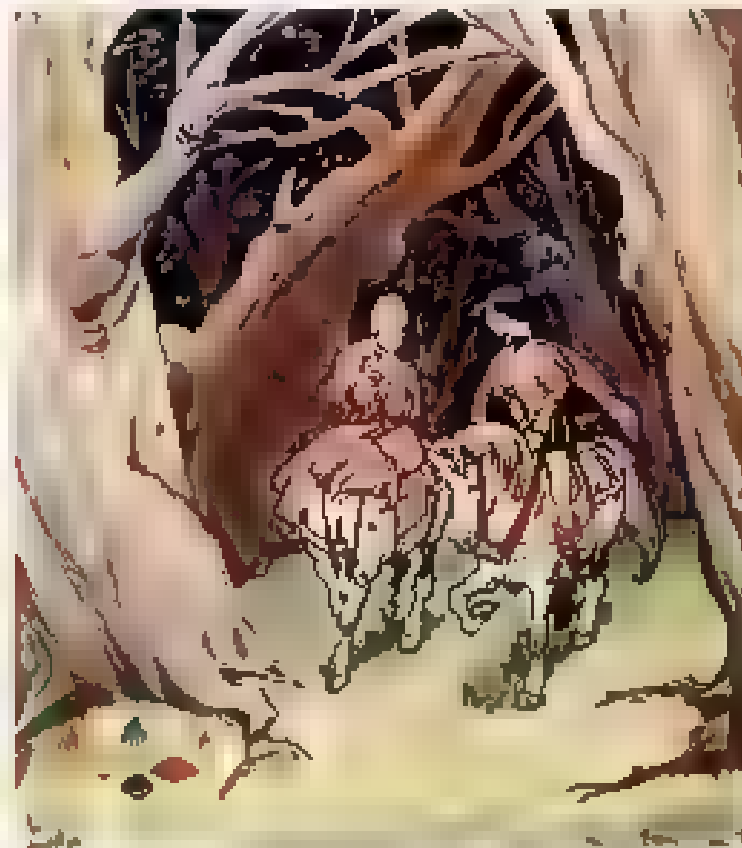
5 "Can I do something for you?" asked the grateful mermaid, and Anna told her new friend all about her christening gift and how unhappy it was making her. "Well," said the mermaid, and went diving down into the gassy green depths until she reached the sandy seabed. There she picked up a pink shell, shaped like an ear



6 Gently she ran to the surface and tossed the shell to the Princess. "Wear it always on a chain about your neck," she said, "and when you have to tell a truth that you'd rather not whisper it unto the shell. 'I will, and thank you," replied Anna. And she went running back to her father's palace clutching the shell.



7 Some days later a handsome Prince arrived at the palace. Immediately the Princess fell in love with him, in spite of one small thing not at the least important. "Princess, will you marry me?" begged the Prince. "Oh, yes," cried Anna, then whispered into the shell. "Even though you have so many freckles."



8 Anna and the Prince were married soon afterwards and lived happy ever after. And any time Anna had to say anything at all about his freckles she would whisper it secretly into the shell, so that he did not hear. At last she came to love his freckles as much as she loved him, but she went on wearing the shell just in case.



Beautiful Paintings

Here is another delightful picture showing what it was like to travel in the days before motor cars were invented. It was painted by Louis Aldin who also painted a coaching-day scene which was painted in Once Upon A Time three weeks ago. It is well worth looking at all carefully. The picture tells us just as much about you have carefully. You can pick out all sorts of things that are happening. The coach itself is carrying the Royal Mail and passengers to York and is being driven by a man where the travellers can get

down and stretch their legs. A new passenger is just coming out from the inn to join them being helped on with his coat and he seems to be yawning. Perhaps he had been waiting a long time and the driver of the horses' heads are turned from him to him. Do you see the inn-boy bringing in the mail? Very nice inn brought in a horse. There is an inn to tell you what the name of the inn would be isn't it all a busy scene?

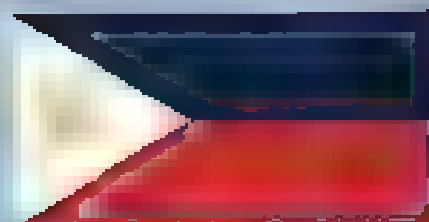
The Philippine Islands



The map shows the position of the Philippine Islands in the world.

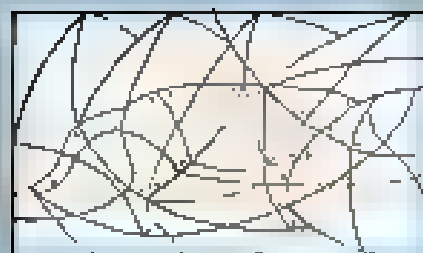
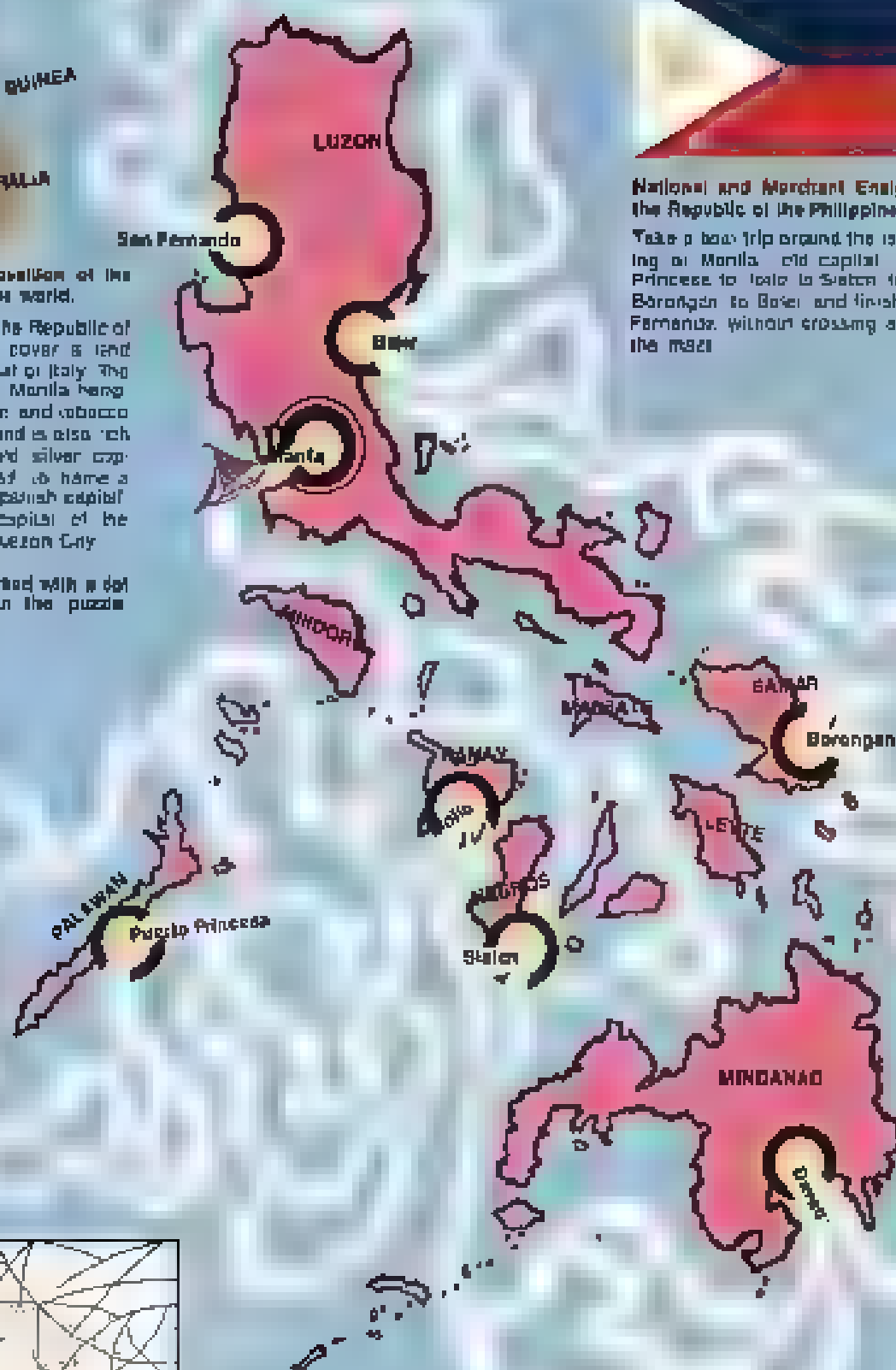
7110 islands make up the Republic of the Philippines, which cover a land area a little less than that of Italy. The fertile soil enables rice, Manila hemp, rubber, sugar, cane, corn, and tobacco to grow well and the land is also rich in minerals, such as gold, silver, copper, iron, coal, and lead. It has a few Manila is the old Spanish capital. But since 1948, the capital of the Philippines has been Quezon City.

Shade in the areas marked with a dot to draw a classical in the puzzle.



National and Merchant Ensign Flag of the Republic of the Philippines.

Take a boat trip around the islands starting at Manila, old capital, to Puerto Princessa to Iloilo to Sulu to Cebu to San Fernando, without crossing any lines of the maze.



The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse²

Two weeks Stephanie gets her picture in the paper

like that which Stephanie found very boring and didn't listen to, but she enjoyed the fine cream tea, which they had

When Stephanie got back to the cottage, Winifred looked so much better that

In no time at all she had her things packed and was on the train going back to town. As Stephanie reached her house

but her neighbour Mrs. Topdrawer. "Hello, Stephanie," said Mrs. Topdrawer. "You've been away a long time."

"Yes," said Stephanie, putting her hand

didn't even know you were going to be away," said Mrs. Topdrawer hopefully for she was really dying to know where Stephanie had been, but Stephanie explained she hadn't heard. She certainly was going to tell soon! Mrs. Topdrawer said she had been in the country. She much preferred Mrs. Topdrawer to think she had been somewhere much more exciting.

Next morning, Stephanie stayed in bed to have her early morning cup of tea. With a sigh of relief, she sipped the tea and then opened her morning newspaper.

"Eek," squeaked Stephanie, in amazement. There, staring at her from the middle of the newspaper, was her own photograph. "Miss Stephanie Mouse as our Dairy Show, Delightful Dairy Queen," she read, in big, black letters.

Stephanie looked at the picture again, and she felt rather pleased. It really did look good and the newspaper had said such a lot of nice things about her that Stephanie felt more and more pleased as she read on.

"Well, Mrs. Topdrawer will see that and be terribly envious," chuckled Stephanie. She got up and strolled down to break

her afternoon tea. She found Mrs. Topdrawer sitting on the bench outside Stephanie's house and the milk man jumped down and carried a big basket up the steps to the door.

Stephanie opened the door and her

a pot of cream. "These are for you with the compliments of the Dairy Miss Mouse."

Stephanie was so

When Nigel came, later that afternoon

enough of the country for

More adventures with your merry mice friends next week

There are some questions about the story. I should like you to help me find the answers. Write your answers on the lines below.

1. Who was the Square going to be named after?
2. What church overlooks the Square?
3. Who designed the four fountains at the Square?

STEPHANIE, the town mouse, decided she didn't like the country. All it was dirt and was hard work and the nearer one got to the farm, the

show in the nearby town because she had been asked to be the Dairy Queen.

Stephanie looked in the old trunk she had which had hills and bounces and lots of embroidery on it. It belonged to Winifred's grandmother and great-grandmother and other relatives and they had been looked after very carefully.

A horse and carriage which had been newly painted and decorated with scrolls and flowers for the occasion. The horses wore ribbons and blue and red rosettes and the driver of the carriage

Stephanie thought the Dairy Show was much nicer than a real farm. For one thing, the cows all looked nice and clean—she was sure the farmers had given them all a wash before they came.

There were lots of speeches and things



Tiny Tim and the Forest Giant



1. Tiny Tim and his six brothers were lost in a great forest, many miles from home, tired and hungry. There was nothing for it but to wander on and look for shelter. Then Tiny Tim climbed a tall tree and shouted that he could see a house not far off.



2. "The people who live there may be able to tell us the way home—and I'm sure they would give us a bite to eat," said Tim, and he led the rush towards the house. It was so big that they could hardly reach the enormous brass knocker of the door.



3. A woman opened the door and they asked her if she would be kind enough to give them food and shelter. "Alas, you don't know what you're asking for, my poor children," she said. "My husband is a terrible giant and when he comes back he will not give you anything to eat, in fact, he will probably eat YOU instead."



4. Tiny Tim and his brothers were very frightened at this, but they were too tired and hungry to find somewhere else to go. "If you could give us something to eat quickly we could be gone before your husband comes back," pleaded Tiny Tim. So the woman took pity on the boys and invited them inside the house.



5 They had just finished a meal of bread and soup when they heard the giant's heavy footsteps outside. "He must not find you here or he will be very angry," said the wife. "Hide under the bed." "We will—and thank you for the food," said Tiny Tim.



7 The giant's wife said he must be mistaken, but he started searching the room, and in no time at all he discovered the seven little boys under the bed. "Ho-hum, what have we here?" the giant chuckled. "I could eat seven boys for my breakfast and then ask for more." "Wait a moment, my dear," said the wife.

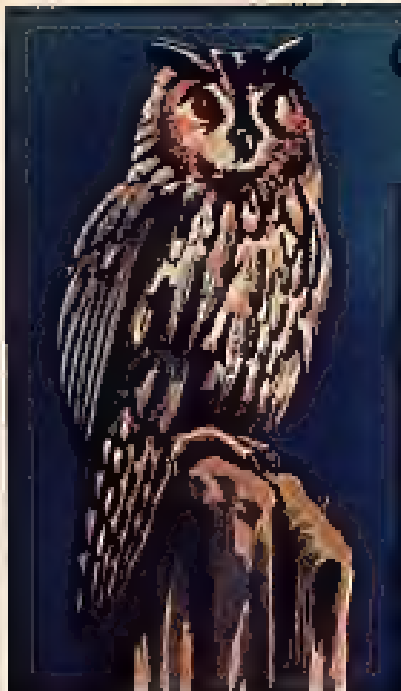
Poor Tiny Tim and his six brothers! See what happens to them next week.



6 Then the giant came in. He was as big as a tall oak tree, with a mouth as wide as an oven and a voice that roared louder than thunder. As he entered the room he sniffed the air and smacked his lips. "Ho-hum, I smell little boys," he shouted.



8 "These lads are too thin and scraggy to eat for they have not been well-fed for months. Why not wait and fatten them up a bit?" The giant grumbled but agreed to wait until at least the next morning. "I'll put them in this basket and you give them food, wife, to make them plumper for me," he chuckled.



The **WISE OLD OWL**

Knows all the answers

Tell me, Wise Old Owl, what were the Seven Wonders of the World?



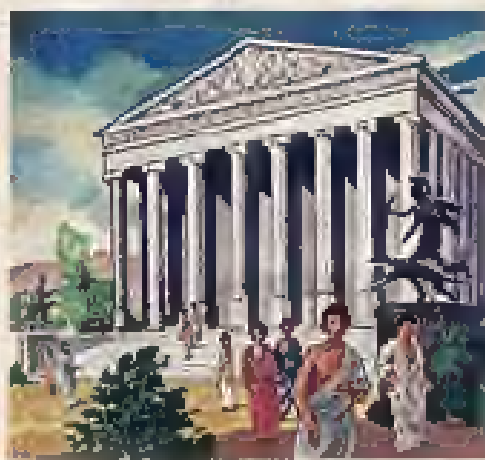
1. The Hanging Gardens of Babylon.

"King Nebuchadnezzar had them built for his queen, who hated the bare plains around Babylon. They were lovely terraced gardens, standing on arches."



2. The Statue of Jupiter.

"This great statue was made by a sculptor named Phidias. It is said that Jupiter had a body made from ivory and a flowing robe made out of pure gold."



3. The Temple of Diana.

"It once stood in the ancient Greek city of Ephesus and contained the statue of the goddess Diana. It was destroyed by invading Goths in the year 262."



5. The Tomb of King Mausolus.

"This burial place of King Mausolus of Caria was built in the third century B.C. by Artemisia, his wife. It was 140 feet high and their statues were on the top."



6. The Colossus of Rhodes.

"This was a huge bronze figure of Helios the Sun-god and it stood at the mouth of Rhodes harbour. It took 12 years to build, and an earthquake toppled it 80 years later."



4. The Lighthouse of Alexandria.

"400 feet high and built of white stone, it stood at the entrance of the harbour of Alexandria. Its top part had windows in which fires burned at night."



7. The Pyramids of Egypt.

"These are world wonders which can still be seen. They were built as tombs for the Egyptian kings. The largest 451 feet high, is the Great Pyramid of Cheops."